

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 15:09:11 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #860
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 15 Jul 93 Volume 93 : Issue 860

Today's Topics:

 America's Technology Store (was: new Radio Shack HT)
 Antenna space problem
 Availabel Amateur Satellites ?
 Communities that unduly restrict Amateur Radio operations
 Converting 49 mhz stuff, and 6-meters questions
 CW decoding on a PC
 Hearing CW in strange places (was: Old Ham
Hearing CW in strange places (was: Old Hams never die, They just ...)
 KA7QJY Components?
 machine-generated CW
 MPF102 direct replacement !!!!
 New Ticket, need advice on 2m HTs
 Recharging ALKALINE batteries
 Tube wanted
 WANTED: modification for Realistic CTR-85 tape recorder
 What modes do you like?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>

Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>

Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 15 Jul 93 05:54:03 GMT
From: anomaly.sbs.com!kd1nr!system@uunet.uu.net
Subject: America's Technology Store (was: new Radio Shack HT)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

jangus@skyld.tele.com (Jeffrey D. Angus) writes:

>
> In article <1993Jul13.165106.1248@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com> c2xjcb@kocrsv01.de
> lcoelect.com writes:
>
> > I'm sure it was just a case of mis-understanding what I said, but last
> > night I went into Radio Shaft to buy a 6V lantern battery
>
> Sadly, I have the same problems trying to buy anything at Henry Radio in
> West Los Angeles. I'm afraid that some of thier employees are even too
> stupid for Radio Shack or the Department of Motor Vehicles.
>
> The bright side is that they *never* ask me for a license. I guess the
> logic is that if I have money and I'm inside the store, I must be OK.

I must say there is one person at the Radio Shack near me (University Heights) that actually knows his stuff, and knows his store. His name is Jim. Everytime I go in, Jim knows me by name, knows the numbers to punch up on the computer so they can track my sales, and can point me right to where what I'm looking for is.

Only problem is he probably won't be with RS much longer. :(

Now, as for dense people. Jabbour Electronics in Pawtucket, RI has one old woman at the counter who I honestly think is brain dead. I went in one day looking for a replacement transistor, and not only did I know the number and manufacturer of the transistor I was replacing, I brought the dead one with me for comparison.

This woman tried 6 times to get me the right one, and I finally got so frustrated I asked her to let me see the book, I looked up the transistor, copied the x-ref mfgr's number down and told her to go get it for me. She brought back the wrong one. So 8 tries later I had the right \$5.00 part in my hands. Sheesh.

Tony

o o Tony Pelliccio, KD1NR, Control Op 441.750+, ARRL VE
\\ / system @ garlic.sbs.com Soon W5YI VE
\\ /
_ (oo) Cow humor. Sort of like the Far Side.
/| --- \\
/ | {MTV}|| MooTV - Rockin' Bumpin' and Funkin' into the 90's
* ||{__}||
||-----|| (And people thought my last .sig was long, ha!)
^ ^

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 13:44:36 GMT
From: mercury.hsi.com!a3bee2!cyphyn!randy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Antenna space problem
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

pachner@csd4.csd.uwm.edu (Thomas Jay Pachner) writes:
: I have no access to outside because the houses are real close, I'm on the
: first floor, and kids play around near my porch continually.
:
: What can I do?
:
: (so my english sucks, but I'm a musician)
:
:
:
: --
: ======
: Thomas Jay Pachner --- Music Major, Bassist, and Amateur Operator (soon)
: University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee - pachner@csd4.csd.uwm.edu
: Amateur Call Sign: Somewhere between Milwaukee and Gettysburg

I assume you are thinking about HF, and not JUST using an HT to reach a local repeater, so...

What band or bands do you plan to be on?
If using SSB , you will likly cause the most noticeable RFI,
while CW (and FM on bands 6mtr and up) will be less noticeable.

For HF...like 80 or 40 meters:

Consider a wire run from one end to other end of the house, indoors, along the ceiling, zig zag as needed to 'use up' 63 feet of wire.

Avoid running the wire AGAINST the wall or near any in-wall electric wiring...use nylon fish line to act as supports, they in turn held by 'push-pins' (chubby thumb tacks) a-top the door and window frames.
No. 22 - 24 ga wire will be just fine (hook-up wire).

Aluminum siding? include a connection to it as part of the usual ground set-up (in your case, a wire run to cold water pipe)

You be using CW so you can afford to use low power, as CW carries a lot better than SSB...start at lowest practical power, go by returning RST report to know if to turn up or down the power. 459 report being "good enough".

For 2 meters, if the rigs existing antenna gives a lousy signal, you might hang by nylon fish line, a 1/4 wave ground plane or a 'twin-lead Jpole' , off the ceiling near the middle of the room.

For 10 meters....forget it...every Jap TV and VCR will receive you before anyone else does...but CW may let you sneak thru, by using 1-3 watts.
(but then, you'd be better off to use 40 meters day, 80mtrs nite for CW because , currently 10 mtrs is dead, probagation wise.)

Randy, KA1UNW

Date: 15 Jul 93 10:55:40 EDT
From: psinntp!pbs!jernandez@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Availabel Amateur Satellites ?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Can someone please post the currently operating amateur satellites ?
I woul be interested in satellite configurations, and the operating frequencies/modes of the S/C.

Thanks in advance,
John
KA2YAP

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1993 16:02:12 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!news.bbn.com!petra!
popovich@ames.arpa
Subject: Communities that unduly restrict Amateur Radio operations
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>The question, therefore, becomes whether the requirement of a copy of the
>ham license is "reasonable" or not. Some would content that it is just as
>years ago, some contended that it is reasonable to have certain people sit
>at the back of the bus. After all, there is no "right" to sit at the front
>of the bus and the bus gets you to your destination no matter where you sit.

This is getting ridiculous. Now, asking for a copy of your license is
an infringement of your civil rights? Give it up, you're no Rosa
Parks. :-) What's next, comparing the club to Hitler? There, I've
said it. This thread is dead. :-)

>Another point is whether it is sufficiently important to tilt at this
>particular windmill. Perhaps the requirement IS wrong but the issue is
>not sufficiently important to fight. This is a matter of personal choice.
>Just remember, rights are lost by erosion in exactly this kind of manner.
>We used to be able to protect ourselves in our own homes; in many states,
>we have lost this right. We used to have freedom of speech and assembly
>but for many years it was illegal to believe in Communism. To this day,

>we are not allowed to hear specific viewpoints from foreign dignitaries.

Well, if this is the camel's nose in the tent, he's got a mighty small nose. ;-) And if you've ever seen a camel, you know they DON'T have small noses. So this can't be the camel's nose in the tent. ;-)

-Steve, WB3I

Date: 15 Jul 93 17:09:14 GMT

From: ogicse!uwm.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!darwin.sura.net!gatech!ukma!
hgpeach@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Converting 49 mhz stuff, and 6-meters questions
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

jdc@cci632.cci.com (James D. Cronin) writes:

>Have any of you attempted converting existing 49 mhz walkie-talkies,
>cordless phones, etc. to 6-meters? I have an urge to give 6-meters

Awhile back someone posted the results of such an attempt. They were using a set of baby monitors. In the case of the baby monitors, all that was required was to replace the crystal. Bob Parness (I think) later posted some instructions on how to convert baby monitors to 6-meters.

73, Harold, N4FLZ

--
Harold G. Peach, Jr. >< N4FLZ _% hgpeach@s.ms.uky.edu

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1993 16:02:24 GMT
From: pipex!uknet!sni.co.uk!lehane@uunet.uu.net
Subject: CW decoding on a PC
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Has anyone any information on decoding CW on a PC?
I'm aware of the Soundblaster system but I want to use a laptop so that means serial or printer port connection only.

Any schematics for a pre-filter/PLL scheme? Does it work under less than perfect conditions and with T5 notes? OK, I know that nothing beats the ear at pulling it out of the noise.
Any DSP system like the W9GR ?

What is the best software for decoding?

All information gratefully received!

73's

Lehane

--

Lehane Kellett. G8KMH. Siemens Nixdorf Information Systems, Bracknell.

lehane@sni.co.uk

Standard disclaimers apply. Warranty void if opened.

Date: 15 Jul 93 20:53:00 GMT

From: ogicse!hp-cv!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!icon.rose.hp.com!

bpicon@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Hearing CW in strange places (was: Old Ham

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Last year I took some video of our club's field day activities. As I was editing and piecing it together, I got the idea of putting some music behind it... so I got up with my midi setup and did a little song... with CQ CQ CQ FD FD FD... etc. as the melody. I showed it to one of the guys in the club who had just gotten his extra, and he missed it completely. After I told him about it and had him listen to it again, he said he could hear it, but would NEVER have gotten it if I hadn't told him about it... so he made a friendly bet with me that when I showed it to the club, NOBODY would catch the code in the song.

Well, I thought he had won, but after the meeting while we were having our cookies and coke, one CW afficianado (W6RFF - Jettie Hill, our ARRL section manager) came up to me and asked me "How did you get the code into the song", and "Why didn't you work my call into it?" (We had used his call at Field Day). So I dragged him over to the other fellow and asked him to ask the same question... and then I got paid! :)

Bill Parrish KM6KV

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 12:24:46 GMT

From: mercury.hsi.com!a3bee2!cyphyn!randy@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Hearing CW in strange places (was: Old Hams never die, They just ...)

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

: My story is the flip side of this one: when I was very
: young, and just getting started in ham radio, I was
: puzzled to hear CW comming out of our oven! I listened
: closely, and quite clearly heard a string of Vs, and the

: letters NSS. Mystified, I asked a ham friend, who cleared
: things up. We were just a few miles from the big
: VLF Navy transmitter in Annapolis, from which
: station NSS transmitted operational messages to submarines.
: The signal was so strong that anything from a squeaky door
: hinge to a loose filling could pick it up. Some grease-coated
: metal-to-metal junction in the oven was acting enough
: like a diode to pick up the multi-megawatt signal. You
: just never know...
:
: Mike, N4PDY
:
: *****
: * These are my opinions only *
: *****

There IS intellegent life other than human:

A friend of mine was studying CW so to pass the exam, which back
in 1959, you'd have to go to Boston or N.Y. where the exam site was.

So, to insure knowing CW he began way ahead of time, before the not
too often test date.

This was summer, and so to beat the heat, he'd sleep out on the
screened-in front porch, which faced a never used street, and no
street lights either.

He couldn't sleep a wink: The crickets and peepers were sending CW
to him all nite long.

Randy, KA1UNW

Date: 15 Jul 93 17:52:52 GMT
From: swrinde!gatech!pitt.edu!gvls1!rossi@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: KA7QJY Components?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CA7n04.KBy@cbnewsm.cb.att.com> jeffj@cbnewsm.cb.att.com
(jeffrey.n.jones) writes:
>In article <29482@ksr.com> jfw@ksr.com (John F. Woods) writes:
>>I just got a flyer in the mail from "Dan's Small Parts And Kits", in
>>Missoula MT. It apparently is Danny Stevig, who used to run KA7QJY Components,
>>but now under a different name and a different state as well. Does anyone
>>know what the deal is? I sent a letter a couple of days ago, and I think I'll
>>call the old phone number tonight to see if he really has moved, but I

>>wondered if any of the readers here knew the story.
>
>Yes, Danny has moved! Here is his new address for anyone that want's it;
>
>DAN'S SMALL PARTS AND KITS
>1935 S. 3RD W. #1
>MISSOULA, MT. 59801
>PHONE/FAX 1-406-543-2872

Apparently when he moves he does not have his mail forwarded (Hmmm... ???)

Just after his last move I sent him a letter requesting his latest price list and never got it. That is when I found out that he had moved. Apparently mail to the old address did not get forwarded.

I have ordered from him twice over the past few years. Good service otherwise.

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA rossi@VFI.Paramax.COM

Paramax Systems Corporation - a Unisys Company
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1993 16:25:01 GMT
From: olivea!sgigate!odin!chuck.dallas.sgi.com!adams@uunet.uu.net
Subject: machine-generated CW
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jul14.221652.7716@nntp2.cxo.dec.com>, ...

...stuff deleted...

|> I don't usually care much for computer sent CW. I find that many op's
|> using computer keyboards spell out every word and tend to send long
|> monologs that give me writers cramp.

is this due to length of time of operator possessing a ticket? i'd think that a newbie would be worse about this than an OF. for slow speeds i abrv as mch as possible so we wont hv lng qso. ;-) at higher speeds i find most ops will reduce number of abbreviations. think this is a side effect to 'kinda of lower the number of random groups'. random letters, which if you think about it is exactly what abbreviations turn out to be, are more difficult at higher speeds above 40 wpm or more.

|>
|> It's too bad the sending test has been eliminated. More and more really
|> bad fists are showing up on HF. I'm sure these folks can copy just fine

|> but they don't seem to be able to space their letters and words. I ran
|> into a guy (or gal) the other night that was sending CQ at about 10 wpm
|> in the general section of 20 meters (at least, I think it was CQ). I
|> couldn't figure out his/her call. (it sounded different every time he/she
|> sent it).

hey steve, i heard that individual. ;)

i have noted a large, and i do mean LARGE, number of individuals sending
CQ CQ CQ DE CALL CALL CALL <kn>

and do you know what? sure enough, nobody comes back to them. ;)

|>
|> daaaaaaaaaah daaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah ditditdit ditditditaaaaaaaaah
daaaaaaaaaah
|>
|> Steve...AI7W

--

"Be not too hard for life is short and nothing is given to man." - J. Baez

Chuck Adams, K5F0 - CP60
adams@sgi.com

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 12:37:43 GMT
From: mercury.hsi.com!a3bee2!cyphyn!randy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: MPF102 direct replacement !!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

ALEXIOU%GRPATVX1.BITNET@FRMOP11.CNUSC.FR writes:

: Hi folks..
: Any idea for replacing the MPF102 FET for use in ARRL handbook(s) projects ?
: I will appriciate e-mail answer (some digests never arrived..)
:
: 73 de George (SV3CHA)
:
These ought to work:

2N4416
2N5484
2N5485
3sk192A
3sk45... with both gates tied as one
3n200... " " " " "

40673 (RCA) " " " " "
3n211 (RCA) " " " " "

...and Radio Shack's 276... series, look for J-FET, in the pea sized body...not the flat one with a top flange or the one with a nib on top

AND...don't let the clerk pick it out for you! He may give you a flash-lite bulb instead!

Randy, KA1UNW

Date: 15 Jul 93 06:05:07 GMT
From: anomaly.sbs.com!kd1nr!system@uunet.uu.net
Subject: New Ticket, need advice on 2m HTs
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

bingh@genie.cs.byu.edu (Curtis N. Bingham) writes:

>
> Howdy folks!
>
> I've been looking at a couple of HTs here, and would like to know if
> any might have a preference. (I'm sure that you have heard this
> before!!) There is a possibility that I may be relocating to the
> Silicon Valley area shortly. I've heard that people there have a
> problem with intermod using dual-banders, and so I figure that I need
> to stick with a single bander. (Anyone care to refute that?)

Yeah but the thing is you don't want to limit yourself to just one band.
I'd say go with the dualbander, probably the Alinco DJ-580.

Tony

o o Tony Pelliccio, KD1NR, Control Op 441.750+, ARRL VE
 \ / system @ garlic.sbs.com Soon W5YI VE
 __/
 (oo) Cow humor. Sort of like the Far Side.
 /| ___ \\
 / | {MTV} || MooTV - Rockin' Bumpin' and Funkin' into the 90's
* ||{__} ||
 ||----|| (And people thought my last .sig was long, ha!)
 ^ ^

Date: 15 Jul 93 19:42:41 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!cs.utexas.edu!usc!nic.csu.net!vmsb.is.csupomona.edu!
cvgttn003@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Recharging ALKALINE batteries
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jul15.132848.17392@gagme.chi.il.us>, gst@gagme.chi.il.us (George Thurman) writes:

> This my be sort of off-topic for this newsgroup, but I thought I would
> ask anyway.
>
> I have seen recently on TV a product being advertised called the
> "Buddy-L Super Charger". This is a battery charger designed to
> recharge ALKALINE batteries. They claim that thier charger is safe
> to use, and that you can ignore the warning message on Alkaline batteries
> when you use THIER charger. This was a half-hour infomercial seen
> on local TV, and several time on Cable. Program was put together very
> well and was hosted by Dick Clark.
>
> I am considering ordering this charger, but I would like to talk
> to someone who has one first.
>

To ANYONE even thinking about recharging alkaline cells: Don't, don't, a million times, DON'T!

Every so often, some goon or another will get a patent on a charger, and invariably, when the buyer tries to charge Alkie cells, BOOM!

Back when I was in fifth grade (1984), my dad got his hands on one of these and installed it out in the garage (Good idea). One day, while we were innocently going about our business on the workbench, BLAM! The closes we ever figured was that one cell exploded, causing the others in the charger with it (The 'charger' [read: detonator'] held four cells) to rupture as well.

The walls and ceiling took considerable battery shrapnel damage, the charger was destroyed (Serves it right!), and both my dad and I were sprayed with electrolyte that, quite frankly, burned hotter than hell.

Moral of this story: Alkaline rechargers are marketing's way of weeding out the incredibly gullible, with the working concept being that someone will be close enough to the thing when (not if) it explodes to be hurt/maimed/killed by it.

Don't even THINK of buying this piece, and remember: The label on the Alkie cells that says 'will explode if recharged' means just that!

P.K.I. - Hydraulics - Cal Poly Rose Float, Pomona
Email: cvgtn003@vmsa.is.csupomona.edu

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 93 13:16:52 GMT
From: mercury.hsi.com!a3bee2!cyphyn!randy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Tube wanted
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

cchou@poly.edu (Chih-Shen Chou) writes:

: If any one of you have the following tubes or know where I can get these tubes,
: please contact with me.
:
: 1. RCA or GE 845
: 2. 50
: 3. WE 300B or 350B
: 4. RCA 2A3 single plate
:
: Thanks in advance.
:
: Jason 718-2759184

Call Antique Electronics Supply...602 820 5411

Get their catalog...you'll be pleased, but not at some of the prices.

Randy, KA1UNW

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1993 16:24:48 GMT
From: pa.dec.com!uvo.dec.com!helles.unt.dec.com!ryn.mro4.dec.com!
salem.enet.dec.com!mcneill@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: WANTED: modification for Realistic CTR-85 tape recorder
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

REALISTIC CTR-85 MOD WANTED

Do you know how to modify the Radio Shack Realistic model CTR-85
Voice actuated cassette tape recorder (Catalog # 14-1056)?

As supplied from the factory the unit -- while in voice actuated
mode -- continues to record for a few seconds even once the
noise has stopped. This is a feature that prevents the recorder
from shutting down between normal pauses in conversations.

This continuation is longer than I would like since it produces "blank" wasted tape, thus shortening the amount of scanner output that can be recorded. It also makes play-back time take much longer.

I have the schematic diagram if any of you ``enginnering-types'' would like to take a look. I can send it 1st class mail or FAX and you could mark-up the copy and return it to me.

If you have the MOD -- please post. If you want to see the schematic please send me e-mail.

Regards,

Kevin

```
+++++
+ Kevin J. McNeill           |  internet:          +
+ Digital Equipment Corporation *| mcneill@salem.enet.dec.com +
+ 9 Northeastern Blvd.        |                      +
+ Salem, NH. USA 03079        |  TEL: 603 894-2555  +
+++++
+ *DISCLAIMER.....          +
+ My comments are my own and may not reflect those of Digital +
+ Equipment Corporation.      +
+++++
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Date: Thu, 15 Jul 1993 16:33:05 GMT
From: news.crd.ge.com!islandgirl!gaus@uunet.uu.net
Subject: What modes do you like?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hello Fellow Hams,

I am interested in finding out amateur radio operators' usage of the various modes available to them. Could you reply directly to me with a list of the modes you use and the percentage of time you allocate to each one? An example of a response might be something like this:

SSB 90%
PACKET 10%

I will tablulate the responses and post the results after it seems like most responses are in.

I am not requesting this information for any particular reason. I am just curious about how all of the modes are used by hams.

Thanks and 73,

Rick Gaus
WA3INC

Date: 15 Jul 93 17:41:37 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!darwin.sura.net!gatech!ukma!
hgpeach@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jul14.123531.232@rsg1.er.usgs.gov>, <22106t\$rho@panix.com>, <1993Jul14.154248.19099@en.ecn.purdue.edu>
Subject : Re: America's Technology Store (was: new Radio Shack HT)

Many years ago, in a former life, I worked as a temporary over the Christmas holiday at RS. I thought it would be neat to sell parts, etc. to people who shared a common interest in electronics.

After starting and sitting through some of their sales tapes, I discovered that the system is biased against sales types that focus on parts. RS sales people who really try to help people and sell them parts, end up making minimum wage and then being leaned on by the manager for not selling enough \$++. What they really want to have sales people do is sell stereos and computers. That is how good RS sales people make money and get promoted to manager.

In the stores I was in, hobbyists were normally left alone as soon as they were identified as such. Only a few of us who were hams would even talk to them. The sales rep.'s view is "I have to sell \$71 per hour to make my manager happy (\$71/hr * 6% commission = \$4.25 [minimum wage]) so why should I spend 15 to 30 minutes helping some guy who will only buy \$2 worth of parts?

Just a small glimpse into the world of RS sales from a former/reformed employee.

--
Harold G. Peach, Jr. ><> N4FLZ _% hgpeach@s.ms.uky.edu

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #860
